

Huntington Beach Water Newsletter

Governor Brown mandates 25% water savings for all California urban water customers.

What does this mean for Huntington Beach residents and businesses?

Due to the severe drought, the Governor has announced mandatory 25% water savings to go into effect June 1, 2015. Mandatory water savings is unprecedented in California and this is new territory for all of us.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has assigned all California urban water districts and cities a mandated water reduction percentage, factoring in previous water conservation efforts, geographic location and average gallons per capita per day (GPCD). Huntington Beach has been assigned a mandatory 20% water reduction.

Huntington Beach residents currently use 109 GPCD, an average calculated during July, August and September 2013, the hottest summer months. It will be a challenge, but by all of us assuming responsibility and working together, we can reduce our daily water consumption by 22 gallons, to 87 GPCD. The GPCD includes residential outdoor irrigation, which is the easiest place to reduce water use.

Should a city or agency fail to reach the mandated water savings, a fine of \$10,000 per day can be ordered, something all of us would like to avoid.

Huntington Beach adopts Level 2 Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance to meet the mandatory State requirement to conserve water consumption by 20%.

Effective May 18th, 2015, the Level 2 water supply shortage ordinance includes:

- Automated water irrigation is only allowed on Mondays and Fridays – two (2) days per week, April through October. November through March, only one (1) day of watering is allowed.
- No watering during or 48 hours after measureable rainfall.
- Water runoff from irrigation onto sidewalks or streets is prohibited.
- Leaks must be repaired within 48 hours of notification.

Do you know how to read your water bill?

We know the H.B. water bill can be a bit intimidating. It's not entirely easy to see how much water your household used in the last month, or last year for that matter. A .pdf document with detailed information on how to read the water bill can now be found on our website, [www.surfcity-hb.org/Water Conservation](http://www.surfcity-hb.org/Water%20Conservation) under Resources and Information.

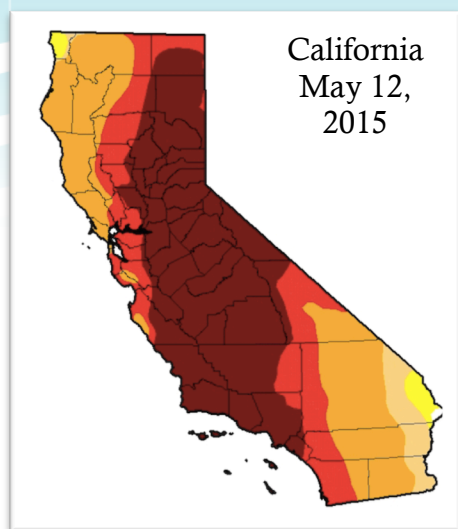
How much water is one (1) unit? 748 gallons

Huntington Beach Water Conservation H0TLINE 714.536.5922

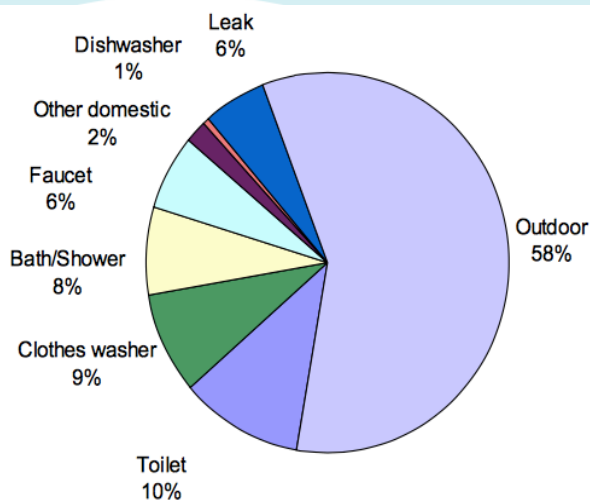
WATER FACTS

- The average five minutes shower uses 15 – 25 gallons of water – around 40 gallons are used in a ten minute shower. A bath uses around 70 gallons of water.
- Short of installing new water-efficient fixtures, one of the easiest, most effective ways to cut your footprint is by repairing leaky faucets and toilets.
- Turn off the tap while you are shaving or brushing your teeth – the average faucet flows at a rate of two gallons per minute!
- Outdoor landscaping uses 50 – 60% of water in a typical family home. Your yard and irrigation system is the best place to start when you're looking to reduce your water use. There are many available water use efficiency rebates like the popular turf removal program and rotating irrigation nozzle rebates - get rid of those old wasteful spray nozzles!

For tips & more information: www.ocwatersmart.com or www.bewaterwise.com





U.S. Average Residential Water Use



Outdoor landscaping use the most water in an average US household. That's also where the "low hanging fruit" water savings typically are found.
Graph: www.CBIA.org

The question in the last quarterly newsletter was how much water a homeowner can save in one year, by having a water wise California friendly garden instead of the traditional grass yard? The answer is 51,000 gallons. A nine year long comparison study between a sustainably landscaped garden and a traditional turf lawn yard, equal size and situated next to each other, revealed the numbers below for annual water, yard waste produced and maintenance hours. For more detailed information: www.sustainablesm.org/gardengarden

			
WATER	57,000 gallons	WATER	6,000 gallons
YARD WASTE	670 pounds	YARD WASTE	250 pounds
MAINTENANCE	80 hours	MAINTENANCE	15 hours

For information on water conservation, water use efficiency, events & rebates:
www.surfcity-hb.org/hbwater Facebook: Huntington Beach Water #714.536.5922